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Catawba Falls

Big Lot of Machinery Purchased by the Southern Power Company.

Charlotte Observer. Dec. 22.

Mr. W. S. Lee has just returned from New York city. While in the North, Mr. Lee signed contracts for the purchase of vast quantities of machinery which is to be used in the development of the Great Falls power, near Fort Lawn, S. C. Mr. Lee made one purchase which is worthy of especial note. He bought of the Westinghouse Electric company \$250,000 worth of machinery sufficient to generate 40,000 horse power of electricity. The first installment will be shipped in the middle of the summer, and from that time until all is delivered, the consignments will be made every month. This equipment, the best and most costly that is to be had anywhere, will fill 25 cars and is one of the largest purchases of machinery ever made by any one connected with this State.

The development at the Great Falls moves on apace. It will be remembered that The Observer mentioned some time ago that a great purchase of water wheels had been made. This \$250,000 purchase of electrical machinery evidences the size of the plant which is to be installed on the Catawba river.

Tabernacle Tidings

Entertainment and Basket Supper Liberally Patronized and Greatly Enjoyed—Principal Hamel's Successful School Work—Improvements in Tabernacle.

The entertainment at Tabernacle school came off, as per announcement, Saturday night, the 16th inst. A large crowd gathered at the school house to hear the exercises, and to partake of the supper that was sold in the baskets.

As had been previously announced, the following was most creditably rendered:

1st Song by the school.

2nd Recitation by Miss Odessa Plyer, "If you will chew Tobacco, you must swallow the spit."

3rd Comic declamation, "Uncle Rastus' Blessings," by George Carnes.

4th A play entitled, "Handy Andy," by several boys and girls of the Tabernacle school.

5th An address, by Prof. J. C. Hamel, principal of the school.

The exercises were all good and highly enjoyed by all present.

The parties representing the different characters in the play rendered their parts with great credit to themselves and teach-

ers.

The recitations were exceptionally fine and were enjoyed and highly praised by all who heard them.

Prof. Hamel gave us a most excellent address, and many were the compliments we heard given him.

Following the exercises as mentioned above, the basket sale was taken up. Mr. W. A. Funderburk, in his business way of doing things, soon had the "boys" bidding for dear life lest some other "fellow" got his best girl's basket, and in a short time all the baskets were disposed of, at fair prices. Supper was then served.

The committee then offered some fruit and other articles for sale, which were soon disposed of.

Total net proceeds were \$25.38.

We are pleased to say that the occasion was a grand success.

The school is now in a prosperous condition. We have a good attendance, and with a man like Prof. Hamel at the helm, we are bound to succeed.

The Christmas holidays will soon be here, and our people will spend them in various ways, some hunting, others visiting &c.

We hope that all may enjoy the occasion in its fullest sense.

A great deal of improvements in the way of building and painting are going on in this section.

Messrs. Pricket Plyer and Wesley Rowell will build nice dwellings in the near future.

Mr. General Griffin will enlarge his commodious store-room.

Mr. H. S. Plyer is having his handsome dwelling painted. Mr. Daniel Todd has the contract.

On the whole, Tabernacle is making great strides along all lines. It is, in our opinion, the garden spot of Lancaster county. All we need now is the C. & L. railroad to come this way, and then you would see things hum.

O. K., S. C. Dec. 20, 1905.

A. C. R.

The Junior Order.

Installation of Officers and Big Banquet New Year's Night.

The Lancaster Council of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics is making arrangements for a big banquet on the occasion of the installation of its officers New Year's night. The installation ceremonies and the banquet will be at the Council's hall. All married members are expected to bring their families and baskets of eatables for the banquet. The Odd Fellows are also invited to attend. The editor of the News acknowledges a cordial invitation to be present.

The Lancaster News, 8 pages twice a week, \$1.50.

The Methodist Church

Interesting History of its Growth in South Carolina, from Its Early Days Down to the Present--All About the Hard Conditions which the Circuit Riders Bravely Met.

Spartanburg cor. The News and Courier:

The Methodist Church is the youngest of the leading churches of the State. They were not known or recognized at the beginning of the last century. It was rather an unpromising outlook for a few poor, unlettered, moneyless men to ride forth with Bible and saddlebags and carry the Gospel to the waste places. A few preaching places were established in the lower part of the State just after peace was established between this country and Great Britain. The first Conference was held in Charleston March 22, 1787, one hundred and eighteen years ago. Two Bishops, Coke and Asbury, presided. There were then in the Conference, which, no doubt, included Georgia and a portion of North Carolina, 2,075 white and 241 colored members. In those days circuit riders would cover 100 to 125 miles. Marriage disqualified a preacher for circuit work. The nominal salary in those days was \$100, provided the preacher could collect it. He preached every day in the week, using private houses, school houses, brush arbors or the woods. Ridiculed as the early circuit riders were with no college or seminary training, with no stations, rich appointments or preferment in view, they went forth to evangelize the State. As the years passed by the other denominations began to understand that there was a power and zeal amongst these people called Methodists, that was according to knowledge and the wants of the people, and they began to adopt the plans of Methodists, and some of the churches have gone ahead of their teachers and for a half century have been sowing seed beside all waters as well as on stony ridges and mountain tops. After the Conference of 1787 six consecutive Conferences, were held in Charleston, and the eighth was held at Finch's, in the fork of Saluda and Broad rivers. But it seemed that the country was not then ready for Conferences, for the next six were held in Charleston.

EARLY BISHOPS.

The 13th Conference was held at Camden, January 1, 1801, Asbury and Whatcoat presiding. That was the first appearance of the latter Bishop in this State. Bishop Coke's last appearance was at Augusta in 1804. McKendree came on the scene in 1808, and for seven Conferences

he and Asbury jointly presided. At the Conference at Milledgeville, Ga., in 1814, Asbury presided for his last time over the Conference, having been its overseer for twenty-seven years.

One hundred years ago, December 30, 1805, the Conference met at Camden, December 30. The white membership was then 12,615 and the colored 4,387. At that time the Conference included Georgia and North Carolina. The first Conference held out of this State was at Sparta, Ga., in 1806. North Carolina did not get one until 1814, when it was held at Fayetteville. The last Conference held in Georgia was at Augusta, January 11, 1827. About that time Georgia organized a Conference. The last Conference held in North Carolina was in Charlotte, November 1, 1865. Four Conferences have been held in Spartanburg. The first was December 26, 1848, Bishop Capers presiding. That was the first time that most of our people had ever seen a Bishop. At that time there were 33,589 white and 41,888 colored members. The other Conferences held in Spartanburg were December 11, 1862. John Early presiding; December 13, 1871, Robert Pain, Bishop; November 30, 1887, Bishop H. N. McTyre in the chair. For the last six years there have been only six Conference secretaries. They were P. A. Williams, thirteen years; F. A. Mood, ten years; F. M. Kennedy, four years; H. F. Cheitzberg, six years; E. O. Watson, twelve years. Sixty years ago a presiding elder's district took in several counties. In the forties the presiding elder that visited Spartanburg had his home, or rather the home of his family, in Lincolnville, N. C. He spread over five or six counties. A preacher by the name of Foster was the first presiding elder the writer recollects. Then came Albert M. Shipp, a young man, and, so far as we know, the first college graduate that ever preached to the Methodists of this county. The presiding elder's home was moved from Lincolnville to Shelby about 1850. It remained the Shelby district until the Conference was divided according to the State line. About 1828 to 1830 there seemed to be a great negro revival in the State, for in 1839 the membership was 24,756 white and 24,822 colored. There were several thousand more colored than white members from that date to 1865, when they began to fall off rapidly. The last negro reported on the membership was 1877, when there were 224.

On the last Conference roll there were about 282 ministers on the list and the membership was 89,388. At the first dozen Conferences the sessions could be held in a small room. Preachers were only entitled to a seat in the Conference. Lay representation did not come for a long time. As late as 1845 circuit riders all travelled on horseback. Then came the sulky period and later the buggy.

Latest from Russia.

Rebels Execute Chief and Aids--Bloody Fight at Tukum.

St. Petersburg, 21, 2.10 p. m.—Since noon today the streets have been filled with troops, especially those in the industrial sections. The railroad stations are in possession of the military.

Wholesale arrests of the leaders of the workmen were made last night. It is reported that the police include in their captures the members of the second workmen's council who were placed in the fortress of St. Peter and St. Paul with the members of the first council, who were arrested Saturday night. A third council, however, promptly took the place of the second.

Moscow is already cut off from St. Petersburg and with the provinces generally was no communication this morning.

According to the latest information the Lithuanian insurrection has extended into the province of Vitebsk, across the borders of Livonia. At Kohunhusen the chief of police and his assistants were tried by a revolutionary tribunal and executed.

It turns out that Tukum, in Kurland, only surrendered after a severe fight which lasted for 12 hours. The insurrectionists had fortified the town by throwing up entrenchments, before which they dug pits. They also had in position the machine guns recently captured by them. The trenches were taken by storm, both sides losing heavily.

The latest information from Kharkoff says that 10,000 revolutionaries are under arms and that troops are being concentrated for the purpose of recapturing the city.

—Mr. A. H. Catoe has left a curiosity at this office in the shape of a corn cob, one end of which is shaped like a human hand.

Miss Hattie Miller, one of the teachers in the cotton mill school, has resigned, on account of her health.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

According to government report made public Wednesday, the cotton ginned up to December 13th numbers 9,282,191 bales.

Saluda county voted out the dispensary Wednesday by a considerable majority.

Henry O'Shields, a young white man of Gainesville, Ga., shot and mortally wounded his wife and Niel Emmett Tuesday night, whom he found together.

The city of Georgetown celebrated on an elaborate scale this week the centennial of its incorporation.

Mrs. Dora Suggs was assaulted and murdered near Miami, Fla., Tuesday night, by an unknown person.